



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

9 MAY 2017

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Arizona – Police Arrest Serial Shooting Suspect

(U) Phoenix – A Phoenix man already facing one murder count is likely to be charged with a series of eight more fatal shootings last year, the city's police chief said yesterday. Aaron Saucedo, was arrested in April and later charged with murder in connection with the first of the killings, which occurred in August 2015, Phoenix Police Chief Jeri Williams said. Investigators initially believed a serial shooter was responsible for seven deaths last year, but in recent weeks they determined two other victims were also shot by the same gunman, who they believe to be Saucedo, including the victim killed in August 2015.

SOURCE: 8 May 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) District of Columbia – FBI: Encryption Keeping FBI from Accessing Lawfully Seized Smartphones

(U) Washington – Nearly half of all smartphones and other digital devices lawfully seized by the FBI are useless to federal investigators because they're protected with encryption, FBI Director James B. Comey told the Senate Judiciary Committee last week. Of more than 6,000 devices obtained by the FBI between 1 October and 31 March, Mr. Comey said 46 percent were safeguarded by strong encryption that renders them unreadable to authorities. Lawmakers have weighed options to alleviate the FBI's so-called "going dark" problem for years. Myriad security and privacy concerns hindered attempts to legislate encryption during former President Obama's tenure in office, however, all the while Apple and Google enabled the widespread rollout of digital encryption by enabling the feature by default on their bestselling smartphones.

SOURCE: 4 May 2017, [The Washington Times](#)

(U) Illinois – Police Warned About Gang Members Armed with Rifles with Armor Piercing Rounds

(U) Chicago – Chicago police issued a bulletin yesterday warning its officers about gangs armed with high-powered weapons, after three people were shot to death over the weekend — including two attending a memorial for the earlier victim. A shooting early in the day left one man dead, and the two others were killed and eight people were injured in a spray of more than two dozen shots from two guns while attending a makeshift memorial for him. Given the very real possibility that the gang war has not played itself out, the department has saturated the same area with officers and tactical teams, an official said. It also has issued a warning about gunmen with weapons powerful enough to pierce bulletproof vests.

SOURCE: 8 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Washington – Six Accused of Running Prostitution Ring

(U) Seattle – Six people have been charged with running what officials say was an organized prostitution ring. US Attorney Annette Hayes says the six advertised their prostitution business on the Backpage.com. Some of the members rented apartments, transported sex workers to various locations and collected money. According to the complaint filed in US District Court in Seattle, they made hundreds of thousands of dollars through the prostitution of Asian sex workers.

SOURCE: 7 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) France – French Police Seek Three in Paris Attack Plot

(U) Paris – French police searched today for three men suspected of plotting an Islamic State group-inspired attack after authorities conducted a major operation at a Paris train station. The three suspects have been identified by police as Belgian citizens Bilal Al Marchohi and Tarik Jadaoun, and Afghan national Zabihullah Sarwari. The operation came the day after a tense presidential election won by independent Emmanuel Macron, who has said one of his top priorities will be ensuring France's security. SOURCE: 9 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Germany – Germany Arrests Two Suspected ISIS Fighters from Syria

(U) Berlin – German authorities arrested two Syrians suspected of fighting for extremist groups in their homeland, including one who allegedly administered a strategically important dam in eastern Syria for the Islamic State group, officials said today. Federal prosecutors said that 30-year-old Abdulmalk A. and 23-year-old Mousa H. A. were arrested Tuesday in Berlin and the nearby state of Saxony-Anhalt, based on warrants issued last week. Both men allegedly joined the Nusra Front in 2012 to fight against the Syrian government, with Abdulmalk A. being given command of a unit in eastern Syria. SOURCE: 9 May 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Malaysia – Malaysia's Top ISIS Operative Killed in Syria

(U) Kuala Lumpur – Malaysia's most-wanted member of the Islamic State militant group has been killed in Syria, police chief Khalid Abu Bakar said yesterday, citing intelligence information. Muhammad Wanndy Mohamed Jedi, who was on a US list of global militants, was the alleged mastermind behind a grenade attack on a Kuala Lumpur bar last June which injured eight people. It was the first and so far only Islamic State attack that caused casualties in Malaysia. SOURCE: 8 May 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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